REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the thorough examination of the present application and the indication that claims 3, 5-8, 12, 14-17, 21, 23-26, 30, and 32-35 embody allowable subject matter. In reliance on this indication and in a desire to expedite the allowance of this application, Applicant has amended the independent claims to incorporate allowable subject matter, and thereby place this application in condition for allowance. As the subject matter of the claim amendments were embodied in previous dependent claims, the amendments raise no new issues.

In short, claims 1, 10, 19 and 28 have been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claims 5, 14, 23, and 32, respectively. Claims 5, 14, 23 and 32 are correspondingly cancelled.

Therefore, the amended claims 1, 10, 19 and 28 are believed to be patentable over the cited references. Insofar as all remaining claims depend from either claim 1, 10, 19, or 28, all remaining claims are similarly patentable. *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 U.S.P.Q.2d 1596, 1600 (Fed. Cir. 1988).

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all pending claims are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

No fee is believed to be due in connection with this amendment and response to Office Action. If, however, any fee is believed to be due, you are hereby authorized to charge any such fee to deposit account No. 20-0778.

Respectfully submitted,

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